

CTE LITERACY PROMISING PRACTICES INITIATIVE

**Sponsored by Maine Department of Education
Division of Career and Technical Education
and the Center for Educational Transformation**

**To participate, complete and email the nomination form to
Lora Downing at lora.downing@maine.gov by noon on February 10, 2006.
Questions? Call Lora at 624-6740.**

Maine Career and Technical Education (CTE) schools are invited to participate in a new initiative to identify, support, and disseminate information about promising programs and approaches that improve literacy, rigor and relevance in CTE courses. Here's how it works:

February 2006

CTE Directors nominate their school to represent one of the six categories.

We are looking for CTE schools that have one of the following six programs or approaches currently in use: (1) *literacy integration approach*, (2) *literacy coach*, (3) *literacy professional development with partner schools*, (4) *career academies*, (5) *remediation/acceleration through applied academics*, and (6) *academic integration between CTE and sending school(s) in one or more content area*. (For descriptions of these, see the next page).

Preference will be given to CTE schools with programs or approaches in place for more than a year and which can show some positive results as an outcome of the program/approach. However, programs and approaches that look promising but were just put into place during the 2005-2006 school year will also be considered. Your school may have more than one of these in place – please nominate for any/all you feel are strong at your school. **Prior to nominating a program/approach please discuss the time commitment with the person involved with the program.**

Spring 2006

Six schools are selected to participate.

During spring 2006, six schools will be selected – one exemplifying each of these promising practices or approaches. Each school will share their practices/approach during onsite visits with a consultant from the Center for Resource Management (CRM). CRM consultants will document how the schools are implementing the practices/approaches, provide guidance for documenting program effectiveness, and recommend next steps to enhance and deepen the programs. CRM consultants will also develop a written description of the implementation of the program/approach at each CTE school. There is no cost to schools for this consultation.

Summer/Fall 2006

Promising programs/approaches are shared with others.

The six schools will be recognized for leadership in literacy development at two one-day, state-wide workshops, facilitated by CRM and CTE staff. Teams from each selected school will share their promising practices so that teams from other CTE schools can consider implementing these programs/approaches at their own schools. The descriptions of the programs/approaches will be posted on the www.schoolswork.org website so everyone has access to these when considering ways to strengthen literacy, rigor and relevance at their school.

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Nomination Form for CTE Literacy Promising Practices Initiative

_____ **YES**, our school has implemented the following program(s) /approach(es) to improve literacy*, rigor and relevance and we would like to have our work showcased to other CTE and high schools.

* Literacy includes reading, writing, listening/viewing, speaking/presenting, and critical thinking.

Name of CTE School: _____

Director: _____

Program contact name/position: _____

Phone: _____ **E-mail:** _____

Place an X by the program(s)/approach(es) below for which you want to nominate your school. NOTE: You may be contacted to provide more information before final selections are made. **For each of the programs/approaches you have checked below**, please write a 2-3 sentence description of the approach as it is used at your school and a 1-2 sentence summary of how you know it is working.

_____ (1) **Literacy integration:** CTE teachers provide reading and writing instruction and opportunities/expectations to read and write in every course. The CTE curriculum/ classes provide authentic contexts for literacy learning. Each class provides students with the opportunity to read a variety of types of text – articles, textbooks, Internet, manuals, etc.

How it looks at our school:

How we know it is working:

_____ (2) **Literacy coach:** The school has at least a half-time literacy coach who works with CTE teachers to provide professional development, modeling, coaching, resources, and other support to help teachers embed literacy within CTE classes.

How it looks at our school:

How we know it is working:

_____ (3) **Literacy professional development with partner schools:** Teachers from the CTE and from sending high school(s) participate in collaborative literacy professional development. This enables teachers at the CTE and sending high school(s) to use common instructional approaches to literacy support and development, thus providing consistency for students' literacy learning.

How it looks at our school:

How we know it is working:

____ (4) **Career academies:** Students select a program of courses that focus on preparation for a specific career area. Coursework includes community-based learning experiences and alignment of academic learning methods to achieve rigor and relevance in student learning.

How it looks at our school:

How we know it is working:

____ (5) **Remediation/acceleration programs:** The school has an applied academic program that uses a variety of tools including technology to improve struggling students' reading and/or writing.

How it looks at our school:

How we know it is working:

____ (6) **Academic integration:** A sending high school has aligned academic curriculum in one or more courses to the specific content of CTE courses/programs. Academic and CTE teachers work closely to ensure that content continues to be aligned and highly relevant.

How it looks at our school:

How we know it is working:

____ **Other** (If you have another approach/program you are using to increase literacy, rigor and relevance at your CTE Center, please describe it here):

How it looks at our school:

How we know it is working:

Thank you for nominating your CTE center to participate in the *Promising Practices* Initiative. We appreciate your willingness to share what you are doing. We will be in touch with you soon. Final selections will be made based on how well what is occurring at your school matches one of the approaches, evidence of effectiveness, and geographic representation.

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